

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed October 1, 2003, claims 1-23 are pending upon entry of the foregoing Amendment. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 23 are amended. Applicant has amended the claims so as to clarify and more particularly indicate the claimed subject matter. The amendments are made for the purpose of expediting prosecution and not in response to any ground or reason of patentability presented by the USPTO. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

A. **CLAIM OBJECTIONS**

There are no claim objections.

B. **REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 16, 18, 19 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Wilcox et al. US Patent 6,404,856.

Independent claims 1, 7, 12, and 18 recite, among other things, the feature of a message forwarder enabling forwarding of audible messages at the option of the subscriber.

Wilcox discloses a system for recording telephone conversations and entering notes while recording the conversation (Wilcox, column 2, lines 35-52). Specifically,

Wilcox discloses an audio data system incorporated into a telephone and having a keypad and display for user interface (Wilcox, column 4, lines 9-11). Wilcox further discloses that the audio data system records audio data and links the audio data to handwritten notes (Wilcox, column 4, lines 32-33). However, Wilcox, fails to disclose forwarding of audible messages. In fact, the Examiner acknowledges that Wilcox “does not specifically teach of forwarding the audible message” (See page 2, last paragraph of Office Action mailed October 1, 2003).

Since Wilcox neither discloses nor suggests the invention described in independent claims 1, 7, 12, or 18, these claims, as well as dependent claims 2, 5, 8, 13, 16, 19, and 22 are clearly not anticipated by the Wilcox reference.

C. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 3, 4, 6, 9-11, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wilcox in view of Becker et al. US Patent Publication 2002/0130904.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 9-11, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21 and 23 depend from corresponding independent claims 1, 7, 12, and 18 and therefore include the feature of a message forwarder enabling forwarding of audible messages at the option of the subscriber.

Regarding these claims, the Examiner acknowledges that Wilcox “does not specifically teach of forwarding the audible message” (See page 2, last paragraph of the Office Action mailed October 1, 2003). The Examiner relies on Becker to overcome this deficiency. Specifically, the Examiner relies on paragraphs 51 and 56 of Becker for teaching that “it was well known in the art to have a message forwarder that enables

forwarding of audible messages to other recipients". Becker merely discloses a system for instant text message communication and does not disclose forwarding audible messages. In particular, Becker discloses forwarding text messages (Becker, Paragraphs 12-14). Specifically, the "Forward" command enables forwarding **text messages** "to another pal or to the user's archives" with annotations (Becker, Paragraph 56). Therefore, Becker and Wilson, both alone and in combination do not describe a message presentation form having a message forwarder enabling forwarding of **audible messages** at the option of the subscriber.

Even if Becker were relied on to teach forwarding of textual messages, Becker does not alone, nor in combination with Wilcox, describe forwarding audible messages **with** text annotations.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants submit that none of the references cited by the Examiner, either alone or in combination, teach all of the limitations of independent claims 1, 7, 12, and 18. Accordingly, Applicants further submit that dependent claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-17 and 19-26 are allowable because they depend from allowable independent claims, as well as for the further limitations they contain.

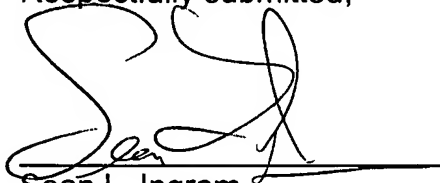
Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Dated: December 30, 2003

**Customer Number
29315**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean L. Ingram', written over a horizontal line.

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